

**ST. MATTHEW PARISH COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES – January 9, 2012**

**Parish Mission** – *“We follow Jesus as a welcoming Catholic community of believers, fostering a life of active prayer and worship, sharing God’s word through education and action and reaching out in service to those in need.”*

**PRESENT:** Alan Bronikowski, Donna Dugan, Steve Joosten, Mike Kuick, Larisa Knorr, Mike Hofmann, Blanche McQuitty, Fr. Pat, Cliff Shelton

**EXCUSED:** Chris Adams, Steve Anderson

**REFLECTION/OPENING PRAYER:** Steve Joosten

**PASTOR’S REPORT:** Fr. Pat

Father Pat updated the Council regarding the status of the investigation of financial irregularities in the parish. The investigation is ongoing.

**DISCUSSION:** ALL

**A) Nomination Process:**

Procedures for initiating the nomination process were discussed. Alan Bronikowski agreed to consult with Steve Anderson to assist with this process, as needed.

**B) Strategic Goals:**

Reviewed Strategic Planning Goals which were identified at last discussion (October 2011). The Council agreed that “Growth of St. Matthew Parish/School/Religious Education Programs” remained as the top priority. Discussed which areas of the parish had the most potential for growth. The areas of education (particularly adult enrichment/education), community building, and service/social outreach were identified as the most important areas to address. The need for a coordinator to organize these efforts was identified. Discussion ensued whether this would be better served by hiring a part time staff member to coordinate these efforts or to hire people to address specific goals as they arise. The possibility of coordinating these efforts with other parishes was also discussed (e.g. RCIA, youth mass). Evangelization was identified as a top concern, including: 1) increasing the number of parishioners 2) encouraging our base of parishioners to attend more often (e.g. sign a pledge) 3) Increasing youth participation (e.g. youth mass – possibly once a quarter at an existing mass time, evaluating music selection), and 4) creating ways to make us a friendlier parish (e.g. greeting each other at mass, offering extra programs). Cliff Shelton and Steve Joosten agreed to discuss these points at the next Evangelization committee meeting on 1/16/12 and share with Council at our next meeting.

**HOLIDAY SOCIAL:** ALL

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Alan Bronikowski